



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042

In re Application of:
YAMAZAKI et al
Application No. 10/812,893
Filed: March 31, 2004
For: DISK ARRAY APPARATUS AND DISK
ARRAY APPARATUS CONTROLLING
METHOD

MAILED

DEC 15 2005

Technology Center 2100

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition, filed on July 11, 2005 under 37 C.F.R. §102(d) and M.P.E.P. § 708.02(VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 102(d) states in relevant part:

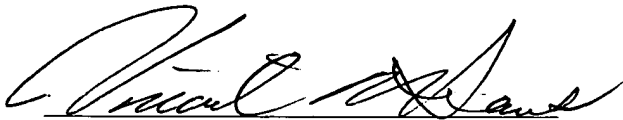
A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (A) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(h);
- (B) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (C) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (D) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

(E) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR §§ 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

Applicant's submission of July 11, 2005 meets all the criteria set out above.

Accordingly, the petition is **GRANTED**. The application is being forwarded to the examiner for accelerated examination in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02. If the application is subsequently allowed, it will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. § 1309.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent N. Trans", written over a horizontal line.

Vincent N. Trans
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2100
Computer Architecture, Software, and
Information Security
571-272-3613